



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ALMEN
Serial No.: 10/773505
Filed: February 6, 2004
Title: HYDRAULIC ADJUSTABLE HINGED HITCH

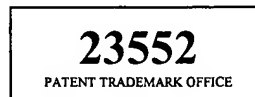
Examiner: Unknown
Group Art Unit: Unknown
Docket: 06006.0020US01

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent App, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 30, 2004.

By: A Ewald
Name: A Ewald

Mail Stop Patent App
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: Curtis B. Hamre
Name: Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No.: 29,165
CBH/ame



S/N 10/773505

PATENT

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By: A Ewald

Name: A Ewald

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Patent App

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003. A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2).

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

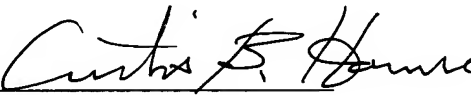
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: April 30, 2004

By 
Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No. 29,165

CBH/ame



FORM 1449*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

06006.0020US01

Application Number:

10/773505

Applicant: Almen

Filing Date: February 6, 2004

Group Art Unit: Unknown



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,293,475	September 25, 2001	Sobolik			
	6,505,688	January 14, 2003	Almen			
	5,181,573	January 26, 1993	Almen			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.